

BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

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FREE

Belleville to close skateboard park

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

On Monday, after a 45-minute public hearing on the troublesome, 10-year-old skateboard park, the Belleville City Council voted unanimously to close the park as soon as practical.

The reasons stated were safety for the children and liability for the city.

DPW Director Keith Boc said he would solicit prices to get the concrete removed, with the goal of getting it all cleared out and planted with grass.

A group of six children and their parents from Victoria Commons neighborhood was in the audience to try to convince the council to keep the park in operation.

They were disappointed at the council's decision, but asked if the city would keep the park useable as long as possible and not lock it up.

Boc replied they can't lock it up because the fence keeps getting pulled down.

Mayor Kerreen Conley said the seasons are changing and the park probably will be open into the winter and then not be re-opened next spring.

The skatepark was built with funds from Wayne County's Parks and Recreation millage. The agreement required it to be kept for 10 years. In June the park hit its 10-year mark and the council started considering what to do with it.

The problem with the park has been its location, since it was conceived by a local teen working on his Eagle Scout badge and Councilwoman Kay Atkins, who sought out the county funds.

At first, it was suggested to put it in the front of Village Park on Savage Road, but homeowners in adjoining Victoria Commons vigorously opposed that location.

It finally was sited on the edge of the park behind the city's DPW yard and next to the industrial park.

(continued on page 3)



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Oztman

Between the workshop and the regular meeting of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees on Sept. 11, the board and police stepped outside for a picture with one of their two new Ford police vehicles. From left is Supervisor Johnny Vawters, Lt. Eric Luke, Trustee Peggy Morgan, Trustee Alan Bates, Treasurer John Morgan, Trustee Bill Hamm, and Police Chief Jim Pierce.

City Planners OK almost double-size clubhouse for BYC

By Bob Mytych
Independent Special Writer

At its Sept. 13 meeting, the Belleville Planning Commission approved a new site plan for the BYC to build a two-level private clubhouse at 430 N. Liberty Street, making the building almost twice as big as what was approved last year by the commission.

On Nov. 10, 2011, the planning commission approved a 4,300-square-foot clubhouse, but the newer plan adds 3,000 square feet in a lower-level, walkout area to the lake.

Belleville architect Wade Hoppe, Steve Davenport of Davenport Brothers Construction, and BYC members presented the new plan to the commission.

The new plan nearly doubles the square footage. The number of boat slips is the

same as proposed on the prior plan at 20.

The project will feature 18 parking spaces based on a maximum of 90 club members. The clubhouse structure will be a maximum of three stories or 35 feet.

The applicant met all the setback requirements on the total area of .66 acre. The proposed use for the R-M Multiple-Family Residential zoned parcel is a permitted use in the zoning district, since the facility will not be let for commercial purposes, like being rented or marketed out for the non-member public. The club will have no liquor license.

A combination of masonry and obscuring wood will make the screening of the parking lot, and all sides where the neighboring residential zoning exists, located to the east and west side of the parcel.

The parking lot will feature two 17.5 foot high light pole fixtures located near Liberty Street. A 6-foot masonry wall will enclose the dumpster.

The club's sign application, which was part of the site plan, was not approved by the commissioners and was deferred for further review.

The BYC will work with city officials to adjust the sign location and will consider a reduction in the overall size of it.

The BYC sign was planned to be almost 7 feet tall and 7.5 feet wide, similar to the Welcome to Belleville sign at the bridge.

The message part measures within the sign ordinance at 31.8 square feet, since 36 square feet is permitted, but the sign structure extends over two feet beyond the edge of the sign on both sides.

The proposed location of the sign may be adjusted, too, because of its proximity to the sidewalk and visibility for the one-way drive that enters and exits the site.

Commissioner Mike Renaud said he thought the proposed sign might be overwhelming to the adjacent residential area.

The walk-out level of the clubhouse is within the new FEMA floodplain recently released. City officials and the applicant will work together administratively to meet those requirements.

Minor details that will be corrected on the site plan include adjustments to the

(continued on page 13)

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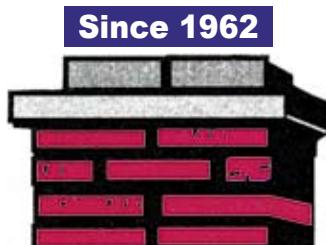
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

VBT planners table Menard's request for rezoning of property

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

"You're asking us to rezone land you don't own," said Van Buren Township Treasurer Sharry Budd to a representative of Menard at the Sept. 12 meeting of the VBT Planning Commission.

"It's moot. You can't rezone," Budd said. She made the motion to table, which was seconded by Commissioner Boynton.

Budd pointed out such a rezoning is not legal and the rest of the board agreed, unanimously voting to table the request for rezoning of 0.6 acre of fairgrounds property until the necessary lot split and necessary documentation is in place to join that lot to the 20 acres Menard will be buying from Bill Sloane, if all goes well.

Presently, Menard's owns nothing.

The vote came after Sally Hodges from McKenna Associates read her report on the rezoning request, pointing out no lot split from the fairgrounds has yet been requested for the property.

Terry Carroll, director of planning and economic development, said the landowner



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Oztman

John Delaney, center, explains that he will not leave the Van Buren Township Planning Commission meeting on Sept. 12, as ordered, unless he is under arrest. Then, VBT Police Sgt. Mark Buckberry said Delaney was under arrest and they left the meeting room. At right are Pam Ruff and Sandy Croswell.

would need to apply to the Property Split Committee made up of himself, DPW Director Tom McDonald, and Assessor Linda Stevenson and the committee would make a recommendation to the township

board.

Mike Simonds, representing Menard, said the first he heard of this problem was 10 minutes before the meeting. He said Menard is under contract with Sloane for purchase of the property. He said he didn't

Skateboard park

(continued from page 1)

It was not easily accessed and police could not adequately patrol it because young people doing illegal activity at the skatepark could see police coming and quickly scatter.

Boc told the council that his DPW department fixes something at the skatepark weekly. He said a steel picnic table recently was dragged across the DPW yard and thrown over the fence and placed on top of a skateboard ramp.

He said the safety bars are regularly peeled back. Garbage cans are set on fire and thrown into the pond.

"It's terrible," Boc said. "There's a cost. Anytime there's vandalism, there's a cost."

Belleville Police Cpl. Todd Schrecengost first spoke of the location and the damage to the properties in the industrial park next to the skatepark. He said the fence, signage and a pay phone have been destroyed at the skatepark.

He said he has witnessed narcotics and alcohol violations and intoxicated people over the age of 20 hanging out with young children.

"We can't sneak up on them," Cpl. Schrecengost said.

He said the skateboarders don't wear helmets and there have been numerous medical runs, as well as unreported injuries of concussions and broken arms and legs.

"I like the skatepark, but I don't like the location," Schrecengost said.

He said the kids are climbing the DPW fence and trespassing. There's 25 feet of fencing missing. Trash is stuffed here and there and graffiti includes racial slurs.

He said the city had good intentions 10 years ago, but the teens who worked to set it up now are in their 20s and have left Belleville and there are new generations here.

He suggested moving the location of the skatepark, if possible.

Bob Balderston of Second Street said he used to be a professional skateboarder on the East Coast in the '70s and '80s. He said he rides a bicycle in the city's skatepark now even though he knows that's against the rules. He called the skatepark "a derelict".

He said there are adults drinking at the park and children shouldn't be going there without their parents to supervise.

"That park is not friendly to children," Balderston said, later suggesting it be removed because of its location not being accessible and in the public view. He also suggested putting it up somewhere else.

Sharon Gabrielson of Victoria Commons said she likes having the physical activity for her children so close. She said the children go with cell phones in their pockets and report bullying and other information to their parents.

"We really enjoy it and want it to stay," she said.

Jeannette Parker said her three boys -- ages 7, 10, and 13 -- enjoy the skatepark and three springs in a row they took a bucket over and cleaned up the graffiti there. She

said her boys go to the skatepark four or five times a week. She goes over at dusk when the "shadier crowd" is there and they have been very respectful of her.

She presented a packet of about 30 letters to the mayor from children who use the park and want the skatepark to stay open.

Tyler Gabrielson, one of the children present to lobby for the skatepark, stood to say he goes to the skate park. He said the children know which parts are broken and don't use those parts.

"You go there to skate. You don't go there to read," Tyler said, referring to the graffiti.

Former City Councilman George Chedraue urged the council to listen to the "Six kids, great wonderful little children came to tell us what they want. Think of the six little children learning what civic government can do."

Former Mayor Tom Fielder asked everyone to suggest ideas on what they would like to see in the park so the Parks and Recreation Commission could work on it.

In other business at Monday's meeting, the council:

- Was informed the 800 MHz radios needed for the Belleville Police Department were purchased from Herkimer Radio for \$19,667.25. With the \$25,000 grant received that fully takes care of the radios that were needed, said City Manager Diana Kollmeyer, who gave Cpl. Schrecengost credit for doing all the work on the proposal. Schrecengost said they will be renewing licenses for the old equipment

know if both parcels have to be owned by the same person to move forward.

Carroll said he will call Sloane, who lives in California, to handle the rezoning request. He said Sloane could be established as agent for the property. Then, the lot split could be approved at the Oct. 2 township board meeting and the planning commission could consider the rezoning at its Oct. 10 meeting.

Hodges said the "lot split" actually would be a boundary line adjustment and combination and wouldn't count as a new split for the fairground.

"Can it be done with two owners?" Simonds asked, noting it's a big risk for Menard to buy property when there are so many steps left before knowing if the project will go forward.

He asked if the commission could approve the rezoning with conditions, but he was told the commission doesn't do that.

While the discussion was going on, Commission chairperson Carol Thompson asked a member of the audience, John (continued on page 12)

for backup use:

- Heard Kollmeyer introduce Interim Police Chief Hal Berriman and announced that a semi backed into the city parking lot the previous week and ripped all the wires off city hall. Everything has been repaired, she said;

- Opened two bids for hot rubber crack filling on High and Liberty streets and awarded the contract to GMS Sealcoating for 50 cents per lineal foot. For 16,500 ft. that equals \$8,250. The other bidder, S&J Asphalt Paving Co., bid \$1.30 per lineal foot;

- Awarded the city engineering contract to Hennessey Engineers, Inc. on the recommendation of the administration. Three bids were opened on Aug. 20, for Hennessey, Stantec, and Spicer Group and sent to the administration for a report;

- Discussed at length a fireworks ordinance aimed at tightening up use in the city. Chief Berriman noted the ordinance would not be enforceable, but said they could use the noise ordinance if there was a problem. A public hearing on the ordinance was cancelled and the ordinance put on the back burner for more study. The council hoped the state legislature will change the fireworks law that has caused problems throughout the state; and

- Heard Mayor Conley tell Chedraue that the council put the District Library Board's request for a meeting with a "negotiating team" on its follow-up list and while she won't be assembling a "negotiating" team, a council team will be appointed to meet with them.

OPINIONS

Editorial

Clerks suggest voters get Absentee ballots for Nov. 6

There are going to be 12 proposals on the Nov. 6 General Election ballot, which will be two pages long, with questions on the fronts and backs.

At Tuesday's Van Buren Township Board of Trustees' meeting, Clerk Wright announced there are partisan and non-partisan candidates on the front and back of the first page and proposals on the front and back of the second ballot.

The state has six proposals, Wayne County has five and Wayne County Community College has one. If you live in the Lincoln School District, there are two more.

He said he would recommend people get Absentee Voter ballots, so they can take their time at home — possibly sitting around the kitchen table and discussing the proposals before filling in the ballots.

Clerk Wright suggested at least picking up a sample ballot to study before voting. He and all the other clerks will have those out for the public to pick up as soon as they are delivered.

The Detroit City Clerk was on TV Tuesday, too, discussing how much is on the November ballot and stressing the need to study it in advance.

She estimates it will take 10 minutes or so for a voter to cast a ballot at the polls. She recommends AV ballots, too. The clerks have been proofreading their ballots, so they know whereof they speak. We've got just a few weeks to figure this all out. We've been warned.

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EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

I received a call last week from a reader who found the item in this column on UFOs interesting because she, too, has seen some strange things in the skies around Belleville.

She said last July she saw some orange lights shaped like the Big Dipper, like the report we had talked about.

She said she saw it behind the bowling alley, toward the lake. She lives in Harbour Club and went back and got her husband, then they parked in the bowling alley parking lot and watched it.

"I have a witness," she said of her husband, who is a History Channel buff and said there have been other reports like this.

"I'm pretty sure someone else saw it," she said. When she saw our report, it made her feel better.

She reported to a guy on the website and he checked Willow Run Airport and said nothing was flying that night. He said it could be those lighted Chinese lanterns that people light off. She said the guy from the website sounded like he didn't believe her.

Another light pole bit the dust recently in the Van Buren Township streetscape on Belleville Road between the bridge and the freeway. Susan Ireland of the VBT Downtown Development Authority said she has had to order some new poles because people keep running into them.

The latest one was hit by a driver who was being chased by Belleville Police and rolled over and hit the pole.

On Saturday a story was published in *The Detroit News* about the Kevin Hirsch vs. Rebecca Kesler law suit on the \$50,000 she

won in the "So You Want to Be a Millionaire" television game show. The story then went out to Associated Press customers across the country and it's showing up in many newspapers.

You may remember we ran the original news story on the law suit while it was in 34th District Court before Judge David Parrott. The law suit has been running for three years now.

Judge Parrott had ordered Kesler, of Van Buren Township, to pay Hirsch \$11,400 for helping her get on the game show, but she has yet to pay.

At Monday's work/study session of the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees, the board and audience were talking about Aerotropolis and whether it is worth the \$25,000 per year the VBT Downtown Development Authority is paying so VBT can be a member of the group.

Supervisor Paul White said that Aerotropolis actually is being renamed "Vantage Port", if everything goes well with the recent application to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. He said there are four Aerotropolis groups in the state and that is just a generic name.

There were different viewpoints on whether Aerotropolis (Vantage Port) is a good deal or not for the township. Several other municipalities have dropped out of the project.

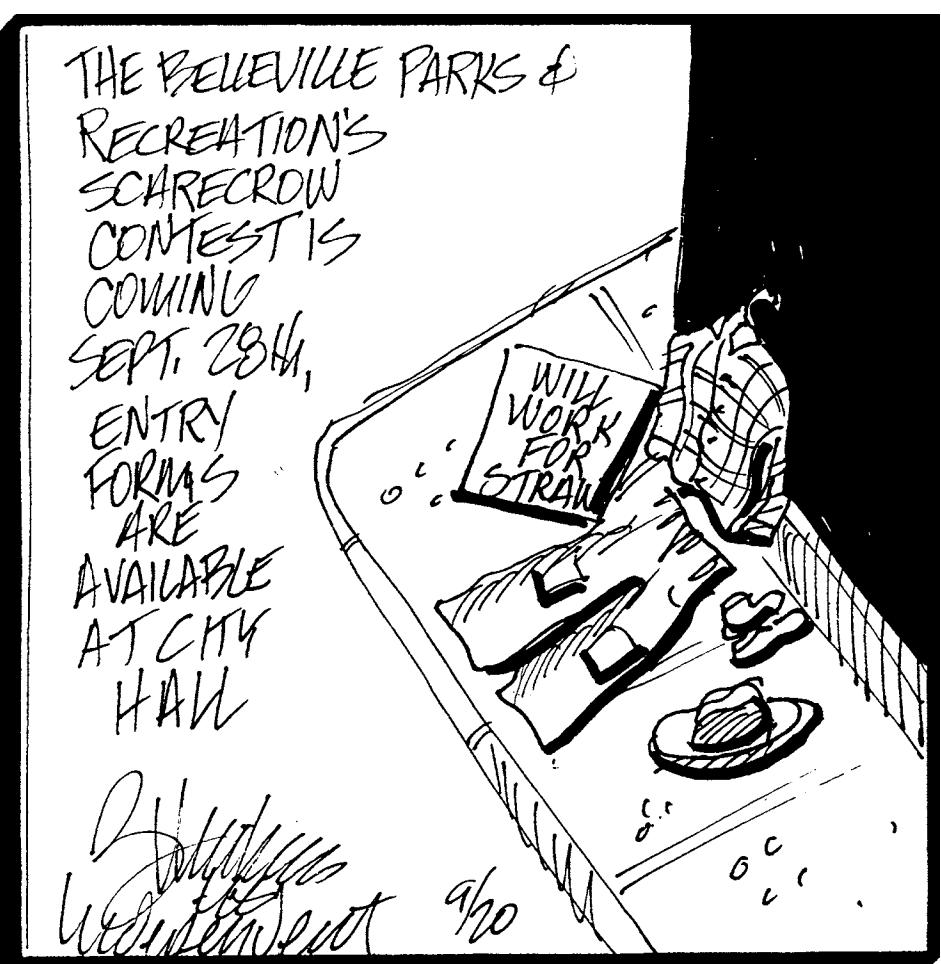
Robert Alford, who is from a Belleville family and now lives in Westland, had his photography exhibit open Sept. 19 at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum in Cleveland. There was a lot of hoopla around the event and it was streamed live on rockhall.com .

Alford is the son of Dr. E.S. Alford who founded Belleville Hospital and was well-known to longtime residents.

Robert's exhibit is: "Just Can't Get Enough: The Photography of Robert Alford". He is considered a leading music photographer and currently operates rockphotoarchive.com .

Van Buren Township Trustee Denise Partridge and her brothers and sisters took their 90-year-old father on a bicycle outing in Detroit on Saturday. He's a great bicyclist, as is the rest of the family, so they rode all over Detroit together. Denise especially was impressed with the River Walk area.

John Delaney reports there's been some cutting of big trees at night (10 p.m. or so) along the ITC corridor in Visteon Village (now called Grace Lake). The big trees are falling into the wetlands in the pictures he shows of the cuts. A young man heard the noise and reported it to his mother.



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Letters

Thank businesses for helping Mark Britz

To the Editor:

On Saturday, Sept. 1, a fund raiser was held at Lodge Lanes in Belleville to raise money for Mark Britz. Mark is a 29-year-old man who is battling brain cancer.

Mark grew up in Belleville. The fund raiser was a huge success and the family of Mark Britz would like to sincerely thank the following local businesses for their very generous donations and support:

34th District Court employees; A&A Oil Change, Romulus; A&W restaurant, Belleville; Al's Asphalt Paving Co., Taylor; B&B Concrete Placement, Inc., Romulus; B&L Automotive, Romulus; Beirut La-Pita, Belleville; Best Asphalt, Inc., Romulus; Blue Ribbon Contracting, Belleville; Bob Evans Restaurant, Romulus; Captain Nemo's, Romulus; Chapp Oil Co., New Boston; China Chef Chinese Restaurant, Romulus; Comerica Bank, Romulus; Countrywood Florist, Romulus; Coyote Corporation, Canton; Dave's & Company, Romulus; Denny's Barber Shop, Belleville; Dos Pesos Mexican Restaurant, Belleville; Dr. Hermann's Vet Service, Inkster; Feed Rite Pet Supply, Belleville; Fluff & Puff Pet Grooming, Romulus; Frosty Boy, Belleville; Golden Gallon Food Store, Romulus; Hungry Howie's Pizza, Belleville; Huron River Market, Belleville; Jake's Auto & Truck Repair, Romulus; K&B Asphalt Company, Wayne; K&K Concrete, Belleville; LaFuente Mexican Restaurant, Ypsilanti; LaQuinto Inns & Suites, Romulus; Leonardo's Restorante, Romulus; Lodge Lanes, Belleville;

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Thank you again for your thoughtfulness and support. It is truly appreciated.
The Family of Mark Britz

Civil War Gala has been cancelled

To the Editor:

I just wanted to inform everyone that the Civil War Gala has been cancelled. We will now focus on the Civil War Reenactment, Oct. 6 and 7. Details to follow!

Sincerely,
Katie Dallos, Belleville Area Museum

Meet the Candidates' program set Oct. 3

To the Editor:

The Belleville Area Women's Club will host a "Meet the Candidates" on Wednesday, Oct. 3 at 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria at Owen Intermediate School (formerly South Middle). Snacks will be provided.

Janet Millard

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More Letters

Letter from a Bemis Road bus stop

To the Editor:

This is an open letter to the small, gray car that decided to overtake and pass my daughter's school bus (Savage, route 2) at about 7:45 on Monday morning leaving the bus driver leaning on the horn and us parents waving our hands in disbelief (you know exactly who you are).

It is never okay to pass a bus -- ever. I'll bet that you're a busy person and maybe you got a late start, but I just want you to know that I'll be out there with my camera next time.

To everyone out there, please be safe. School is in. Buses are rolling. There is a reason why it is against the law to drive around a bus on the road regardless of whether or not the lights are flashing or it has come to a full stop.

Thank you,
Amy O'Brien
Sumpter Township

Jessica Greer earns double BA degrees at WMU

Jessica Jasmaine Greer of Belleville was granted two Bachelor of Arts degrees from Western Michigan University, one in criminal justice and one in sociology. She is a 2012 graduate in the Summer I session.



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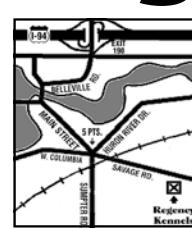




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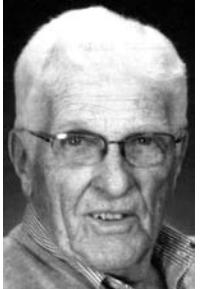
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Obituaries



Billie J. Rakotz



Donald E. Lowe

BILLIE J. RAKOTZ

(October 28, 1937 – September 11, 2012)

Billie J. Rakotz, 74, of New Boston, passed away on September 11, 2012. Billie was born to William and Johanna Smith in Huron Township on October 28, 1937.

She enjoyed gardening, fishing, hunting, cross country skiing and flowers. Billie loved being with her grandchildren and was known for having to be in charge.

She was preceded in death by her parents, sister Barbara and grandson Jeremy. Billie was survived by her loving husband Ralph, daughters Joni (Mike) Prentice and Tami (Mike) Grimm, step-son Rick (Joann) Rakotz, sisters Phyllis (Bob) Smith and Sandra Schuster, as well as seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Visitation took place September 13 and 14 at Crane Funeral Home, Romulus, with services September 15. Donations can be made to the American Cancer Society.

Arrangements handled by Crane Funeral Home, Inc./cranefuneralhome.net.

DONALD E. LOWE

(March 12, 1929 – September 3, 2012)

Don's sunrise was in Belleville on March 12, 1929. He attended Belleville High School, class of 1947, where he was senior class president and member of the basketball team and the band. On May 31, 1947 Don married his high school sweetheart Mildred Ray. Shortly thereafter he began his police career in Detroit. In July 1959, Don and Millie and their seven children moved to Tucson, AZ, where he continued his career in law enforcement in the Tucson Police Department. He finished a stellar career of 22 years on the force and retired in 1981. Don's sunset was Sept. 3, 2012. He leaves behind his wife of 65 years Mildred, his seven children, 14 grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren, his sister Ilene Mackie and brother Leonard, along with many nieces and nephews. Cremation has taken place in Tucson.

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Joan Ruth Gage

JOAN RUTH GAGE

(May 18, 1929 – September 7, 2012)

Joan Ruth Gage, of Willis, MI died peacefully at Ann Arbor Hospice in Ann Arbor, MI on September 7, 2012 at 83 years of age. She was born on May 18, 1929 in Fairview Village, Ohio.

Joan was the mother of four children, Joann R. Kidder, Barbara E. Rakoczy, Carolyn Allen and Robert F. Gage; grandmother of Brian Kidder, Joseph Kidder, Barbara Humphrey, Paul Rakoczy, Donna Platt, Angela Holman, Greg Ayala, and Ron Ayala. She had 12 great-grandchildren and 4 great-great-grandchildren. A private memorial service was held in her honor.

Motorcyclist dies after crashing into back of disabled tractor-trailer

A 42-year-old Ypsilanti man died after his motorcycle crashed into the back end of a tractor-trailer that had broken down in the northbound lane of Rawsonville Road, north of West Huron River Drive.

The accident happened just before 1:35 p.m. on Sept. 11.

Van Buren Township Police Captain Gregory Laurain said after the tractor-trailer broke down, the driver had placed warning triangles out behind his rig and was in the process of making a cell phone call for road assistance when a motorcycle traveling northbound crashed into the rear of the trailer.

The motorcyclist locked up his brakes just before making contact, Captain Laurain said.

The operator of the motorcycle was transported in critical condition to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor where he died from his injuries shortly thereafter, Captain Laurain said.

It is unknown if alcohol or drugs were a contributing factor at this time and the crash is still under investigation. The name of the deceased is being withheld pending notification of the family. There were no injuries reported to the operator of the tractor-trailer.

Library plans sessions with Daniel Mason, Civil War genealogy

On Saturday at 1 p.m. the Belleville Area District Library invites the public to hear Daniel Mason, author of "Detroit Metro Airport: Images of Aviation."

Detroit Metro Airport historian and author Mason will share the history of DTW – from local airport to Army airfield to international passenger hub – at this free event.

Copies of his book will be available for purchase or checkout.

Then, from 7 to 9 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 3 and 10, genealogists Ginger and Keith Bruder will present "Genealogy: Civil War Soldiers."

The Bruders return to give inspiration and advice in this special genealogy workshop for more experienced researchers. This two-week program will focus on researching the service information for Northern soldiers.

Space is limited, so be sure to register early. Sign up for this free program began on Sept. 19, at the library.

For more information, call the library at 699-3921.

Secretary of State offices collecting food for Harvest Gathering

Secretary of State Ruth Johnson announced that residents can donate nonperishable food items at local Secretary of State branch offices, continuing a long-standing tradition of giving to families in need.

The 2012 goal is 300,000 pounds of food and \$1 million. In 2011, Michigan Harvest Gathering collected more than 140,000 pounds of food and \$531,000.

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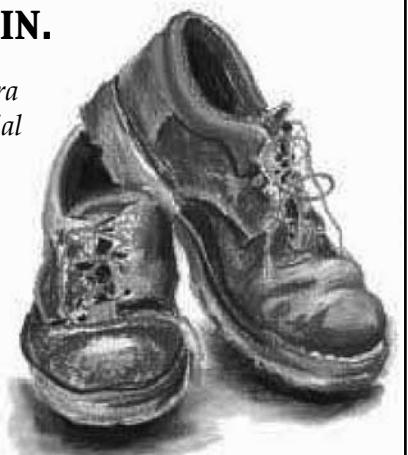
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Sumpter Township Fire Chief Les Powell resigns post, 4 get contracts

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

There were five Sumpter Township employees listed on the Sept. 11 agenda for the township board meeting, all to be considered for four-year contracts.

But, at the beginning of the meeting one item on the agenda was changed from "renew contract for Les Powell" to "accept retirement" for Powell.

It was said that Fire Chief Les Powell had handed in his resignation. The board accepted it without comment, except to say he would get a plaque, retirement badge, and be able to keep his chief's helmet.

Powell's brother-in-law Joe Januszyk was named interim chief.

Four-year contracts, all expiring in November 2016, were approved for Police Chief James Pierce, Police Department

employee Malissa Baker, CPA Jim Glahn, and Water and Sewer Director Marvin Drews.

In other business at the 25-minute, Sept. 11 meeting, the board:

- Approved moving temporary part-time employee Michele Roman to full-time employee in the floater position, under the direction of the supervisor or deputy supervisor. She has worked 90 days part time and did an excellent job, according to Supervisor Johnny Vawters. She'll be doing CDBG, building department, and other assignments;

- Heard Hennessy engineer Ryan Kern explain that the pump station at the corner of Willis and Sumpter roads has the inside surface eroding due to a hydrogen sulfide attack and part of the problem has to do with ventilation. He estimated it would cost

\$40,000 to \$50,000 to reline the wet well and \$300,000 to rebuild it. More tests are being conducted and when they are done, the results will be brought back to the board with a recommendation. Engineers will be checking all the wet wells in the township to make sure there are no other problems;

- Heard township attorney Rob Young say the township's 1992 20-year agreement with YCUA (Ypsilanti Community Utility Authority) will be expiring soon and so he is working on it and will send back information with Trustee Alan Bates, the water department liaison;

- Heard Supervisor Vawters say he had just returned from a two-week vacation, but he had a few reports. He said he heard back from Wayne County Commissioner Kevin McNamara on the township's request for a four-way stop operation at the corner

of Wear and Sherwood roads. McNamara reported due to low traffic volume the four-way stop is not warranted. A lowering of the speed limit also is not warranted because of low traffic counts, few pedestrian/cyclists, and no crash history in this area. A service order has been made to install a playground sign (W15-1) at the corner. Vawters also announced that the Nature Conservancy is asking for volunteers for its projects within the township;

- Heard Trustee Peggy Morgan give a police report in the absence of Chief Powell. She said 40 dozen ears of corn were picked by Moe's farm the morning of the fire department chicken broil on Sept. 9. The young workers also shucked all the corn for the fire fighters; and

- Approved paying warrants totaling \$758,294.78.

Van Buren Township recount affirms Combs still tops for supervisor

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

On Friday afternoon, after about two and a half hours of recounting votes from the August primary election, the Wayne County Election counters confirmed that Linda Combs got the most votes and still is the Democratic candidate for supervisor in the Van Buren Township general election in November.

VBT Supervisor Paul White, running for reelection, filed for a recount after he lost to Combs by 50 votes in August.

"Of course, I'm disappointed in the count," White said. "But now I will move forward and enjoy life and my happy retirement."

The official recount found 1,112 votes for Combs (up three from 1,109 in August), 1,068 votes for White (up nine from 1,059 in August), 452 for Larry Fix (up two from 450 in August), and 429 for Tim Szetela, the same as in August.

Observers watching the recount noted that hundreds of voters did not cast ballots for local candidates, voting only for the

state proposals and the state and national candidates. This led to the large difference in votes cast vs. the number of local votes recorded.

There were two vote challenges that were put in separate brown envelopes where votes were marked with Xs rather than filling in the oval, as directed. The county allows the Xs.

Delphine G. Oden, Wayne County Director of Elections, ran the recount held in the Otisville-Sheldon room at Van Buren Township Hall. She brought six two-person teams who counted the 10 precincts and the 10 Absentee Voter precincts.

Everyone observing the recount was required to sign in. There were six people present for Combs (including her attorney John Day), 10 for White, one for Fix, and four general observers, including three reporters.

Bentivolio wins special primary for McCotter's term

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

About 6% of the registered voters in the City of Belleville and Van Buren Township came out to cast ballots on Sept. 5 in the special primary election.

The ballot held the names of five Republicans and one Democrat who were vying to fill about two weeks of the term of U.S. Representative Thaddeus McCotter, who resigned past the deadline to get on the August primary.

Kerry Bentivolio of Milford won on the Republican side and David A. Curson of Van Buren Township was unopposed on the Democratic side of the ticket. The vote was throughout areas of Wayne and Oakland counties.

In Van Buren Township, which has 21,796 registered voters, 1,263 voted, making a voter turnout of 5.79%.

Total Republican votes in VBT were: Bentivolio, 215; Nancy Cassis, 140; Carolyn Kavanagh, 105; Kenneth Crider, 63; Steve

King, 54; and write-ins, 4.

Democrat Curson pulled in 674 votes and there was one write-in.

In the City of Belleville there were 3,066 registered voters and 198 cast ballots, making a voter turnout of 6%.

Republican Bentivolio earned 35 votes; Nancy Cassis, 32; Carolyn Kavanagh, 21; Kenneth Crider, 11; and Steve King, 8.

Democrat Curson earned 89 votes.

It will be Bentivolio and Curson on the November ballot for the 6-week remainder of McCotter's term, which ends in January. This will be voted on in the old 11th District, which includes Van Buren Township and Belleville.

The new two-year term for McCotter's former seat will be voted on in the new 11th District, which does not include Van Buren Township and Belleville.

That ballot will contain Bentivolio on the Republican side and Syed Taj of Canton on the Democratic side.

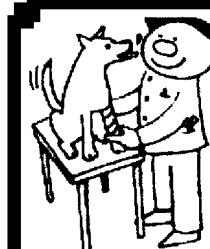
All BHS alumni invited to potluck picnic at Van Buren Park on Sept. 22

All Belleville High School alumni and families are welcome to attend an Alumni Potluck Picnic at Van Buren Park (Pavilion #2), 50901 S. I-94 Service Drive in Van Buren Township on Saturday, Sept. 22, from 11 a.m. to dusk.

Dinner will be served at 1 p.m.

Entry fee into the park is \$4 per vehicle. Bring a dish to pass, your own beverages, and lawn chairs. Plates, plastic ware and cups will be furnished.

The event is sponsored by the BHS Alumni Banquet Committee. For more information, contact Anita Greca, chairperson, at cell: 734-637-5265 or email: agreca77@gmail.com.



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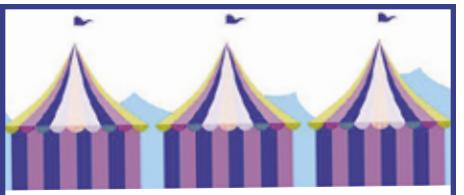
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District Library board discusses meeting with City Council

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

At the regular Meeting of the Belleville Area District Library Board on Sept. 11, the issue of the poor relationship with the Belleville City Council on library siting came up once again.

Library Board Chairman Mary Jane Dawson recounted the most recent interaction with the city council, when, in response to a letter from the board to the council asking for a meeting, the "city preferred to table or take it under advisement rather than meet with us ... We have no plans to meet with the city."

The library has been seeking donation of the library property and other sites to the district library, but has not decided where to put its new library building as yet, with the favored site being the DNR property north of the Belleville Bridge in Van Buren Township.

Board Treasurer Elaine Gutierrez suggested maybe the board could come up with a different approach.

"Like what?" Dawson asked.

Gutierrez said the city wants more

details.

"Our approach was to ask for the sun and the moon and the stars," Gutierrez said.

"We just asked for a meeting, not the sun or moon," Dawson replied.

"They're looking for a plan or layout or something," Gutierrez insisted.

Dawson recounted the history of the board's request last February that said if they decided to put the building downtown they would need certain sites. She said the council voted to individually come up with questions and give them to the city manager who would pass them on to Dawson. But, she received no questions.

She said on July 18, the library finally heard something from the city, asking which streets they want closed and other questions. That's when the board suggested a meeting.

"We weren't asking for a decision, just to sit down to talk..." Dawson said.

Mike Renaud, who is a member of the city planning commission, said the issue is like a hot potato being tossed back and forth between the city and the library.

Dawson said the city's decision to take the

request for a meeting "under advisement" means, "don't hold your breath," according to her governmental friends.

George Chedraue, an attorney who is running for a seat on the library board, suggested the board could be a little more conciliatory. He suggested they go to Van Buren Township and Sumpter Township and talk to them about what they could offer.

"You don't know we haven't gone to them," Dawson said. "I was asking for a meeting."

"You were demanding a meeting," Chedraue said.

"No," Dawson insisted, and the discussion ended.

At the end of the meeting, Renaud suggested Dawson ask for a meeting with Mayor Kerreen Conley to see what it would take to move talks forward with the city.

"If two heads are not in sync, there's no reason to think it will go forward... Instead of it just dying or writing off the city, try again ... I think the two of you should have that meeting," Renaud said.

Michael Boelter said, "I'm on the building committee and I'm going to give a special invitation to the City of Belleville to meet with us ... Quit stalling, get this going."

He said he sees signs that say "Keep the Library in Belleville".

In other business at the Sept. 11 meeting, the board:

- Approved hiring low bidder Alan C. Young & Associates, P.C. as auditor for the district library at \$7,365. Other bidders were Doeren Mayhew at \$8,000 and Rehmann at \$7,400/\$7,900;

- Discussed the evaluation pending for the library director, Deb Green, whose evaluation was done in August last year. The personnel committee meeting will meet to make arrangements. Green was absent from the meeting because she was on a walking tour of Spain, due back Sept. 15;

- Approved a circulation policy revision, which made provisions for schools of choice students in the Van Buren Schools that live elsewhere and allowed Teacher cards. Also, a limit has been made of five feature films on DVD at one time;

- Heard Dawson say there was no site selection update, but the board would be discussing that in the closed-door session at the end of the open meeting;

- Authorized the levy of 0.7 mills for Library Operation to be placed on the December 2012 tax bill in Belleville, Sumpter, and Van Buren;

- Learned the library has hired Security Operations Services of Ypsilanti on a trial basis to provide security for the library. They are scheduled for ten hours per week; and

- Was advised more than \$1,600 was raised at the "Bring Our Boys Home" dinner on Aug. 21 to earn money to purchase military and pension records for all those from the Belleville area who served in the Civil War. Ginger and Keith Bruder are in charge.

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Tiger football gets blanked by Fordson, 17-0

By Bob Mytych

Independent Sports Editor

The defense of the Belleville Tigers football team gave their offense every opportunity possible to shift momentum and to capitalize on mistakes made by the Tractors.

But they couldn't take advantage.

Belleville, despite forcing four turnovers, three of them for interceptions, could not convert any of them in a 17-0 loss to Dearborn Fordson on Sept. 14, played at BHS. The loss put Belleville's record to 2-2 on the season.

The Tigers looked as if they were going to score first, thanks to a 60-yard run by Belleville's Jeff Walker that put them to first and goal from the 7-yard line. From there, Belleville quarterback Drew Letwinski threw an interception on third down to nullify any potential scoring drive. Belleville later gave up a safety in the second quarter. The Tigers penetrated Tractor territory late in the second half but couldn't connect on a 34-yard field goal attempt. The half ended with Fordson up 9-0.

The Tractors scored on a touchdown pass late in the third quarter and added another early on in the fourth to close out the win.

Belleville hits the road for its next three games, starting with Birmingham/Detroit Country Day on Friday evening, Romulus on Sept. 28, and Dearborn on Oct. 5.

Volleyball Skills Camp Sept. 28-Nov. 2 at VBT

An introduction to volleyball by instructor Robin Paris will get under way every Friday, beginning Sept. 28 and running through the first week of November.

The program, which will run from 4:15 to 5:15 p.m. each day, is geared for children in grades 3-8.

The cost is \$45 for Van Buren Township residents and \$60 for non-residents. To register, call (734) 699-8921.

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David C. Brown Funeral Home
has set up a Temporary Viewing and Funeral Chapel at 500 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, in the former Katherine Rose Flower and Gift Shop until the funeral home is rebuilt from the fire.

Library space public forum set Sept. 26, expert session Sept. 27

The Belleville Area District Library's "Space Needs Revisited" public forum will take place at 7 p.m., Sept. 26, at Belleville High School's mini-auditorium, 501 West Columbia Ave.

Anders Dahlgren, of Library Planning Associates, will review his firm's latest recommendations on the projected space needs for Belleville's future library.

This will be an opportunity for those who live in the community to hear the whys and hows of what goes into planning a new library building.

The draft space needs report can be found on the library's website: www.belleville.lib.mi.us.

The library board will hold a special meeting with Dahlgren at the library, 167 Fourth Street, at 10 the next morning Thursday, Sept. 27, to discuss input from the forum and to further clarify his findings.

Multiple larcenies hit residents of Belleville, Van Buren and Sumpter

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

Over the past week a series of larcenies and break-ins have hit residents of the tri-community.

In Belleville there were seven sheds broken into on Sept. 11 and 13 in the Belle Villa neighborhood.

Interim Police Chief Hal Berriman said his officers are investigating and have some leads.

He said the items stolen include tools, a snowblower, a set of golf clubs, and a small boy's BMX bicycle. One shed had pry marks on the door, but nothing was missing. In another shed a video game attachment that didn't belong to the victim was left in the victim's building.

In Van Buren Township on Sept. 12 there were four larcenies from autos at the Beck Ball Diamonds and another larceny from

an auto on Kirkridge Street on Sept. 15.

On Sept. 13 there was a breaking and entering of a motor vehicle in the early morning hours on Lighthouse Drive and later on the 13th there were three vehicles stolen from 49120 and 49110 Denton Road.

VBT Police Lt. Dennis Brooks said all of the larcenies from autos followed the same procedure. Items taken were purses, wallets, phones, anything left out in the open.

Lt. Brooks said it's impossible to tell if the thefts are related, but if he had to guess he would say because of the locations and times it probably is the same crew doing them all on the given nights.

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Independent photos by Bob Mytych

Girlstown of Belleville held a ribbon-cutting ceremony with the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce and local officials recently. The event was to announce their name change to Guiding Harbor. To learn more, visit their website at www.guidingharbor.org.



The Hidlago Mexican Restaurant of Belleville held its re-grand opening recently with the Belleville Chamber of Commerce and some of its members and local officials. The restaurant celebrated its two-year anniversary with live music, games for children, prizes and food specials all weekend long.



The **Drive 4 Your School** fundraiser to benefit the new Belleville High School will take place on Saturday, Oct. 6 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the high school. **Atchinson Ford** of Belleville needs you to help them make money for the school. Atchinson Ford will have new vehicles on site, and for every test drive, Atchinson will make a donation to BHS, up to \$6,000. For information call **697-9161**. ***

Michigan Metal Recycling is a full-service metals recycling company that is open to the public and located a few minutes west of downtown Belleville at **175 Rawsonville Road**. MMR is a buyer of scrap metal, including aluminum, brass, cast iron, copper, steel, appliances, and automotive parts. They also offer container service, pick up and delivery. Call **(734) 485-0481** and visit www.michmetal.com. ***

The *Independent* welcomes **Melissa Baiz**, used vehicles sales at **Taylor Ford** at **13635 Telegraph Road**, just south of Northline Road. Baiz offers competitive pricing on Ford certified used cars and trucks and will pay top dollar for trades-ins too. Visit www.shoptaylorford.com or call **(313) 694-8018**.

or (313) 216-1569.

The Belleville Chamber of Commerce is selling tickets to the upcoming basketball game between the **Harlem Ambassadors** and the **Chamber Tigers** on Oct. 24, at 7 p.m. at the new BHS Gym. Tickets in advance are \$10 for adults, \$7 for seniors and for students with ID, \$5 for kids 5-11, and free for children 4 and under. Add \$2 more per ticket if purchased at the door. Call **697-7151**. ***

If you're thinking about moving to a new community now is the perfect time as the folks over at **Franklin Homes at Van Buren Estates** in Belleville is offering finance programs for all types of credit. Right now new homeowners can save \$100 off lot rent for 12 months. Van Buren Estates is nestled in a country setting, minutes from downtown Belleville and freeways, pet friendly and located within the Lincoln School District. For info, call **Joylene Moore** at **(734) 697-6159** or visit them on Facebook. ***

Applications are available until Sept. 28 for the city of **Belleville's Annual Scarecrow Contest**, which will be on display downtown during **Harvest Festival** on Oct. 13. The scarecrows on display will be judged during the festival and displayed through Nov. 5. The contest is free to enter and open to businesses, families groups and individuals. Applications can be downloaded at the city's website at www.belleville.mi.us.

CHECK OUT OUR SEPTEMBER DAYS RED TAG SALES SPECIALS!

Marti's Gift Gallery

**668 E. Huron River Drive
Belleville, MI 48111 734-699-GIFT**



Where you'll find the most unique collection of Fall gifts for your family and friends.

- Cards
- Remembrance Collection
- Home Decor
- Music Boxes
- Heritage Lace
- Porcelain Dolls
- Baby
- Baptism/Christening Gifts
- Inspirational Throws
- Military/Armed Forces Decor
- Swan Creek Candles
- GIFT CERTIFICATES
- Country Home Creations Dip Mixes

HOURS:
Tues., Thurs. & Fri.
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday
Noon - 6:00 p.m.
Saturday
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Closed Sunday & Monday



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Pole Barns • Electrical • Concrete Retaining Walls
Docks • EPA Certified for Lead Paint Removal**

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Menard's

(continued from page 3)

Delaney, to, "Take conversations outside" and Delaney replied, "Won't happen."

When it was time on the agenda for audience comment on the subject, Delaney said he felt the treatment of the Menard representative was a travesty.

"You couldn't let this gentleman know until 10 minutes before the meeting," Delaney said and Thompson interrupted his statements.

"Do not interrupt me again, Miss Chairperson," Delaney erupted, stating Simonds needn't have come to the meeting if he was informed there was a problem. Simonds reportedly traveled from Wisconsin.

"This is terrible how this commission works," Delaney continued.

Thompson announced a five-minute break and sent Carroll off to get a police officer to remove Delaney from the meeting.

While waiting in the audience, Delaney said he had bail money and he would go to jail on this one.

"I am not attacking, but am speaking the truth ...," Delaney said. "This is not Venezuela."

When Lt. Mark Buckberry arrived Delaney said he didn't do anything wrong and he wouldn't leave the meeting unless he was arrested. After a brief pause, Lt. Buckberry said Delaney was under arrest and the two left the meeting.

Delaney actually was not arrested, but Buckberry instructed him not to re-enter the meeting. Delaney since has filed a complaint with the township against Thompson, since this is the third time she has called police to shut down his remarks at planning commission meetings. He also said he plans to file a Open Meetings Act violation against Thompson.

Meanwhile, after the meeting restarted, resident Larry Fix told the commission that the township has got to start treating people better than this.

He recalled another big box store that was going to come to the same site that decided not to come. He said some planning commission members should not vote on this issue because of their business.

He said he would like to see Van Buren Township perceived as a fair community. He said he thinks the commission owes the man from Menard a sincere apology, since he flew in from Wisconsin for nothing.

Fix said it would be nice for a high-class company like Menard to come to this township.

Thompson asked if the list prepared by Terry Carroll on the project had a lot split on it and Carroll said it didn't with this applicant.

Thompson apologized to Simonds that he didn't get notice of this issue. She said a rezoning applicant needs to meet the letter of the law.

"The property owner did not make the application," Budd said. "Mr. Sloane does not own the property. It's illegal." She added she doesn't think anyone on the commission doesn't think Menard would

be good to have in the township.

At the end of the meeting, Fix commented on the way people who live in the township are in a battle zone and it shouldn't be that way. "Our board of trustees should be our best friends," he said. "This whole community is talking about Menard's ... and he came here for nothing tonight."

In other business at the Sept. 12 meeting, the commission voted to recommend to the township board approval of the amended zoning ordinance dealing with wireless communication facilities, so the township would be in compliance with state law.

Pet of the Week

Friends of Michigan
Animals Rescue

"GRACIE"



Gracie is a great older gal with a gentle and friendly personality that you can't help but love. She's an 8 year old yellow Labrador that's been blessed with all the traits people seem to love in this breed. **Gracie** is good-natured, affectionate and outgoing with people and other pups alike. She's a little on the chunky side and would benefit from a good diet and exercise program but in the meantime her cheerful waddle walk she has going on is completely adorable. Her age and extra weight make this charming girl usually pretty laid-back but she can still get enthusiastic for playtime with a little encouragement. **Gracie** has the temperament of a true loyal and loving furry friend and you can tell she wants nothing more out of life than to make friends and be a friend to all she meets. She does want us to mention her best friend Copper the Coonhound who she came into the shelter with. She'd love to find a home where he might be welcome too! **Gracie** would like very much to find a family to be a part of again and hopes she'll be able to share her good-natured spirit with a loving home soon. Call to day to meet this likable girl! **Gracie** is spayed, vaccinated and micro-chipped. **734 461-9458**



Belleville Parks & Recreation ANNUAL SCARECROW CONTEST



Who Can Enter: Businesses, Families and Individuals, Youth and Adult Groups and Organizations. No entry fee.

Contest Dates: September 28 – Applications Due
October 5 – Scarecrows Due at City Hall

Download Application and Information at www.belleville.mi.us
Scarecrows will be judged during Harvest Fest,
and displayed on Main Street through November 5

Belleville Harvest Fest

Family Fun on Saturday October 13,
11am–4pm on 4th Street. Celebrate
the Belleville Fire Dept Centennial!

DOWNTOWN ON THE LAKE www.buyitinbelleville.com



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REWARD!

If your evaluation shows hearing improvement with new instruments, you may choose to retain them and receive
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You will also receive a FREE Lifetime In-Office Maintenance for the life of the hearing aids and a FREE \$50 Visa Card*.

HEARING TESTS OFFERED 3 Days Only!

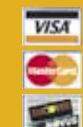
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Patient may return aids within 30 days of purchase for a full refund.

Doug Dalton Auctioneer Presents ESTATE ANTIQUE AUCTION

Fri. Night - Sept. 21, 6pm

PREVIEW 4pm

2 AUCTION RINGS AT 6pm

ROMULUS PROGRESSIVE CLUB, 11580 OZGARD RD. ROMULUS

DIRECTIONS: Take I-94 to Haggerty Rd. Exit, (1st exit West of I-275) go South 1 mile to Huron River Drive, then East or left 1.5 miles to a 5 point intersection in Romulus. Turn sharp left, you're there!

Fri. Night 6pm Auction includes: Advertising Items inc. a 1910 Green River Whiskey Charger, 1890 Original Turned Wood Barber Pole, Lots of Artworks inc. Paintings & Prints, Fine China and Collectable Glassware, Pocket Watches and Clocks inc. Regulators, Select Group of Furniture inc. Signed Horner Display China, Tons of Guy Items inc. 1845 Kentucky Flintlock, WW1 German Sword, Iron Bear Trap and Vintage Fishing Lures in Boxes, Case Knives, Taxidermi Items inc. Fox & Bob Cat, Musical Instruments inc. Guitars, Fine Jewelry inc. Gold & Silver, Great Primitives inc. Blue Slip Decorated Crocks, Lamps, Ladies Items, A Unique Blend of Good Stuff

6pm Separate Toy Auction

Select Toys inc. 1900 Irish Mail Cart, Childrens Furniture, 50s Murray Riding Tractor, Great Lionel Trains & Access. Lots of 50s Vehicles, Some Dolls and More!



TO SEE LOTS OF PHOTOS & DETAILED LISTING, GO TO
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BYC clubhouse

(continued from page 1)

location of the sidewalk, turning radius of the one-way entrance, and the location of a 5-foot wooden fence that would screen the parking area from Liberty Street.

When asked about whether or not the BYC was looking at a location to build at the Belleville Moose, Davenport held up a letter he received from the lodge on Huron River Drive stating that it was an invitation to consider and nothing more than that.

The BYC is often referred to as the Belleville Yacht Club, but that yacht club name is legally owned by the owner of Johnny's Grill.

In other commission business, Planning

Commission chairperson Steve Jones said that he and the sign subcommittee are in the final steps of the sign ordinance update and will have that document for the commission to consider sometime soon.

Barns needed: Rodents? Mice? Say good-bye

Feral cats are a wonderful, all-natural form of pest control for your barn. They just need to be fed once a day. All cats are spayed/neutered and up to date on shots. Please consider donating your barn. Feral cats are not suited to be indoor pets.

Call 461-9458 to donate your barn to a needy pest control engineer from Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue.

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45915 S. I-94 Service Dr., Belleville

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DOUBLE COMBINATION PLATES - \$9.00

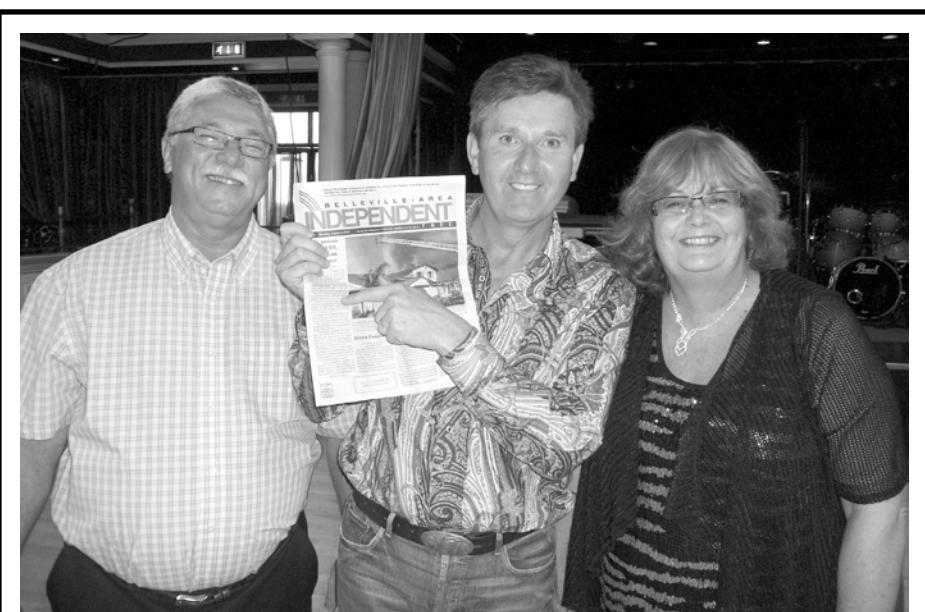
SINGLE COMBINATION PLATES - \$6.50 - \$7.00

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Any Entree (Includes Carry Out Orders) or Buffet Purchase Per Person

DINE-IN OR CARRY OUT
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COUPON EXPIRES 9-30-12



**They're reading the Independent
everywhere**

Jerry and Patti Bies of Van Buren Township read their *Independent* with special friend Daniel O'Donnell, an Irish singer well-known throughout the world. They traveled the whole island of Ireland on their recent trip "Summer in Ireland with Daniel O'Donnell". This photo was taken in Killarney.

For those who are considering submitting a photo, be advised that your entry will be run when space allows. Please include the name and address of the person you wish to get the free subscription. Include your phone number if you want us to let you know just before it's printed. A person may use this offer to get a total of two free subscriptions – and no more.

If you aren't going to an exotic location, just send us \$25 for postage to an address inside Michigan or \$30 out of state, and we'll provide mail delivery of the *Independent* so you won't miss a single, exciting issue.

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

The following are selected runs for VBT Police. For more detailed police logs, see www.bellevilleareaindependent.com.

Sunday, Sept. 9:

0113 – loud party complaint, 9985 Jackson Ln.
0259 – juvenile complaint, 41555 S. Bellridge Dr.
0324 – loud party complaint, 41577 S. Bellridge
0849 – assault & battery, 51300 Michigan Ave.
0934 – malicious destruction of property, 15424

Brookside Dr.

1035 – larceny, 9745 Van Buren St.
1238 – shots fired, 17000 Renton Rd.
1502 – personal injury accident, EB I-94/Belleville
1703 – private property accident, Beck/Aires
1746 – private property accident, Walmart
1958 – fight, 8900 Parkwood Dr.
2109 – larceny, 40602 Alden Ave.
2113 – breaking & entering, 1 Oak Blvd.
2342 – juvenile complaint, 1 Maple Dr.

Monday, Sept. 10:

0204 – assault & battery, 48910 Denton Rd.
0410 – malicious destruction of property, W. Archwood
1428 – private property accident, 41510 N. Bellridge Dr.
1442 – disorderly conduct, 50745 S. I-94 Service
1448 – missing person, 46070 Lake Villa Dr.
1511 – larceny, 46748 Ayres Ave.
1516 – retail fraud, 2095 Rawsonville, Kmart
1639 – narcotics crime, 8901 Parkwood Dr.
1651 – juvenile complaint, 113 Peachtree Ln.
1811 – personal injury accident, E. Huron River Dr. / Evelyn Ct.
2010 – larceny, 16 Maple Dr.
2017 – noise complaint, 45100 Hull Rd.
2049 – trespassing, 46000 Lake Villa Dr.

Tuesday, Sept. 11:

0754 – larceny from auto, 42039 Hayes St.
0808 – larceny from auto, 41425 McKinley St.
0909 – larceny from auto, 8778 Prairie Ct.
1005 – mental, 26 Brandi
1149 – harassment call, 8729 Hardwood Dr.
1216 – trespassing, 9000 Haggerty Rd.
1343 – personal injury accident, Rawsonville/W. Huron River Dr.
1426 – assault & battery, 81 Park Estates
1459 – intimidation threat, 9500 Belleville Rd.
1550 – larceny from auto, 118 Maple Dr.
1632 – fraud, 2039 Rawsonville
1715 – retail fraud, Meijer
1853 – overdose, 12904 Hannan Rd.
1955 – juvenile complaint, 173 Spruce Ln.
2143 – fraud, Meijer
2246 – suspicious person, Van Buren Park
2257 – suspicious person, S. I-94 Service/ Denton

Wednesday, Sept. 12:

0114 – breaking & entering motor vehicle, 41460 W. Archwood Dr.
0138 – larceny, 11530 Belleville
0207 – noise complaint, 70 N. Ponderosa Trl.
0615 – private property accident, 49061 S. I-94 Service Dr.
1414 – private property accident, J&T Towing
1733 – ATV/ORV complaint, 6000 Haggerty
1813 – breaking & entering, 42 Park Estates
1814 – juvenile complaint, 1 Locust Dr.
1834 – larceny from auto, Beck Ball Diamonds
1902 – larceny from auto, Beck Ball Diamonds
1911 – larceny from auto, Beck Ball Diamonds
1950 – assault & battery, 46020 Lake Villa Dr.
1957 – fight, Vernon
2010 – larceny from auto, Beck Ball Diamonds
2016 – disturbance, 46425 Tyler Rd., Planning Commission meeting
2206 – malicious destruction of property, 14315 Sheldon Rd.
2233 – assault & battery, 6 Birch Dr.
2235 – assault & battery, 28 Brandi
2251 – mental, 10630 Dewitt Rd.
2351 – intimidation threat, 15851 Martinsville

Thursday, Sept. 13:

0019 – disturbance, 11795 Meadows Circle
0147 – breaking & entering motor vehicle, 10870 Lighthouse Dr.
0315 – juvenile complaint, 46070 Lake Villa Dr.
0352 – unauthorized driving away of auto, 49120 Denton
0630 – unauthorized driving away of auto, 49110 Denton

0717 – shots fired, 10591 Oak Ln.
1005 – sexual assault, 46425 Tyler Rd.
1045 – unauthorized driving away of auto, 49110

Denton

1102 – intimidation threat, 9115 Parkwood Dr.
1537 – trespassing, VB Estates playground
1537 – harassment call, 58 Chaney Ave.
1626 – assault & battery, 6818 Morton Taylor Rd.
1633 – juvenile complaint, 41480 W. Archwood
1725 – narcotics crime, Denton/Beckley
1841 – intimidation threat, 48771 Denton Rd.
1917 – personal injury accident, Tyler/Belleville
2034 – narcotics crime, Richard Run/Estate Dr.
2058 – trespassing, 28 Brandi
2146 – narcotics crime, 4018 Greenmeadow
2149 – fraud all, Meijer
2158 – larceny, 8856 Parkwood Dr.
2223 – fireworks, 9192 Parkwood Dr.
2242 – breaking & entering, 46 Rose

Friday, Sept. 14:

0301 – noise complaint, 11100 Lighthouse Dr.
1049 – malicious destruction of property, 51183

Sylvia Dr.

1145 – noise complaint, 7974 Kirkridge Park Dr.
1158 – property damage accident, Beck/RR tracks
1222 – harassment call, 1000 Sumpter Rd.
1339 – violation public health code/violation controlled substance act, 10124 Hamilton St.

1424 – private property accident, 43646 N. I-94 Service Dr.

1622 – ordinance violation, 13410 Lenmoore Ave.
1841 – harassment call, 10859 Jackson St.

1923 – malicious destruction of property, 46040

Lake Villa Dr.

2027 – burglary in progress, 24 Oak Blvd.
2034 – juvenile complaint, 41649 Van Born
2154 – operating while intoxicated, Haggerty/Tyler
2224 – noise complaint, Westlake
2232 – loitering, 41482 W. Archwood
2343 – assault & battery, 42811 Bradley Dr.

2326 – operating while intoxicated, EB I-94 / Belleville

Saturday, Sept. 15:

0112 – breaking & entering, 27 Rose
0318 – personal injury accident, 46940 Denton Rd.
0530 – harassment call, Meijer
1041 – larceny from auto, 8105 Kirkridge St.
1050 – personal injury accident, Belleville/Lake Villa Dr.

1444 – ATV/ORV complaint, 5873 Deller St.
1717 – personal injury accident, Belleville/N. Service

1816 – malicious destruction of property, 42008

Filmore St.

1910 – malicious destruction of property, 46 Rose
1911 – juvenile complaint, 324 Holly Ln.
1940 – disturbance, 9085 Parkwood Dr.
2003 – assault & battery, 10280 Endicott Ave.

2013 – assault & battery, 10928 Buchanan St.

2024 – fraud, Meijer

2050 – fraud, 49044 Togowtee Pass

2131 – assault & battery, 11737 Meadows Ln.

2155 – fireworks, Haggerty/Savage

2205 – juvenile complaint, Tyler/Morton Taylor

2242 – larceny, Andover

2256 – property damage accident, Belleville/N. I-94 Service Dr.

2359 – disturbance, 50683 Old Michigan Rd.

Also on this week's log are 194 traffic stops, with 21 of those on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Sept. 9:

0001 – property check, 301 W. Davis St.
0402 – domestic assault, 102 Angola St.
1214 – found property, Frosty Boy
1300 – intrusion alarm, 501 W. Columbia Ave., BHS

1309 – assist fire dept., 10 San Carlos St.

2111 – follow up, 40602 Alden

2335 – follow up, 84 Carmell St.

Monday, Sept. 10:

0938 – assist fire dept., 142 South St.
1240 – abandoned auto, 112 W. Davis St.
1239 – missing person, 125 N. Edgemont Ave.
1323 – agency assist, 355 Main St.
1339 – abandoned auto, 243 Huron River Dr.
1358 – malicious destruction of property, 6 Main
1442 – assist fire dept., 57 Loza Lane
1555 – larceny, 6 Main St.
1730 – property damage accident, 6 Main St.

1728 – E-911 cellular, 43466 N. I-94 Service Dr.
1737 – property damage accident, 125 W. Columbia Ave.

1739 – abandoned auto, 112 E. Davis St.
1804 – agency assist, 35 Carriage Ln.
1815 – agency assist, 991 E. Huron River Dr.
1850 – suspicious vehicle, 161 Henry
1822 – intimidation threat, 201 Belle Villa Blvd.

Tuesday, Sept. 11:

0941 – assist fire dept., 440 Light Tower Ct.
1028 – property damage accident, Main/Belleville
1053 – breaking & entering, 6 Main St.
1105 – assist fire dept., 12 Carmell St.
1102 – E-911 hangup/investigation, 228 Second
1142 – misc. complaint, 6 Main St.
1157 – E-911 cellular, 243 Main St.
1555 – breaking & entering, 148 Carmell St.
1807 – animal complaint, 606 Thornhill Ct.
1830 – breaking & entering, 165 Belle Villa Blvd.
2052 – juvenile complaint, South Middle School
2151 – suspicious person, Victory Park
2215 – breaking & entering, 35 Carmell St.

Wednesday, Sept. 12:

0028 – narcotics crime, 86 Menlo Park Dr.
1250 – traffic complaint, Belleville/N. Liberty
1309 – assist citizen, 6 Main St.
1436 – civil matter, 715 Breakwater Dr.
1446 – suspicious person, 146 Carmell St.
1614 – lost property, 6 Main St.
1658 – trespassing, 733 Breakwater Dr.
1812 – suspicious person, 265 Main St.
1833 – assist fire dept., 577 E. Thornhill Ct.
2214 – agency assist, 7 South St.

Thursday, Sept. 13:

0704 – intrusion alarm, 871 Sumpter Rd.
0838 – breaking & entering, 513 Victorian Ln.
0909 – assist fire dept., 127 Main St.
1125 – assist fire dept., 275 W. Columbia Ave., Columbia Court

1152 – all other traffic, 123 S. Edgemont Ave.
1230 – assist fire dept., 575 Sumpter Rd., Co-op apts.

1641 – larceny, 1 Belle Villa Blvd.

1945 – breaking & entering, 3 Belle Villa Blvd.

1956 – breaking & entering, 10 Carmell St.

1959 – breaking & entering, 2 Belle Villa Blvd.

0402 – suspicious vehicle, Johnny's
0154 – property check, 541 E. Huron River Dr.
0253 – suspicious person, Village Park
0857 – hospice, 187 Belle Villa Blvd.
1125 – malicious destruction of property, 178 S. Liberty St.

1128 – vehicle lockout, 123 N. Edgemont Ave.

1135 – property damage accident, 167 Fourth, library

1212 – follow up, 513 Victorian Ln.
1242 – follow up, 124 Menlo Park Dr.

1547 – property damage accident, N. Biggs Ave./ E. Huron River Dr.

1659 – vehicle lockout, Family Dollar

2105 – suspicious person, Carmell

2320 – suspicious person, Owen/Sumpter

0115 – assist citizen, 27 Rose
0148 – E-911 cellular, SB I-275/Michigan
0217 – intrusion alarm, 575 W. Columbia
1807 – civil matter, 6 Main St.
2015 – property check, 206 South St.
2018 – assist citizen, 10928 Buchanan
2148 – shots fired, 588 E. Thornhill Ct.
2330 – assist fire dept., 275 W. Columbia Ave.

2331 – E-911 hangup/investigation, 73 Menlo Park

Also on this week's log are 46 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Sept. 9:

0024 – suspicious incident, 42000 bl. Bemis Rd.
0533 – fire dept. assist, Nevada
1225 – civil dispute, 50000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1344 – larceny, 46000 bl. Wear Rd.
1436 – larceny, 43000 bl. Wear Rd.
1732 – larceny, 26000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1739 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Lane
1856 – suspicious incident, rustic Lane
1925 – malicious destruction of property, 17000 bl. Savage Rd.

2040 – assault, 46000 bl. Judd Rd.
2102 – animal complaint, 28000 bl. Elwell Rd.
2203 – trespassing, Montana

Monday, Sept. 10:

0952 – family trouble, 20000 bl. Wilmot Rd.
1019 – suspicious incident, 50000 bl. Willow Rd.
1057 – animal complaint, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1205 – animal complaint, 20000 bl. Clark Rd.
1246 – civil dispute, 26000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1722 – traffic hazard, Haggerty/Willow
1830 – malicious destruction of property, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.
1902 – juvenile complaint, Judd/Martinsville
1935 – alarm, 24000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1941 – suspicious incident, Carriage Ln.
2131 – suspicious vehicle, Sumpter/Willis
2140 – shots fired investigation, 43000 bl. Judd

Also on this week's log are 19 follow-up investigations, 24 miscellaneous details, 131 patrol checks, and 19 traffic stops.

0019 – assist other agency, 45000 bl. Paris Dr.
0432 – suspicious vehicle, 26000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0434 – fire dept. assist, 25000 bl. Elwell Rd.
0653 – suspicious person, Rustic Lane
0844 – property damage accident, Oakville Waltz / Clark

0912 – civil dispute, Birch
0917 – threats, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.
0941 – warrant arrest, 43000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1013 – alarm, Utah

1435 – suspicious person, 39000 bl. Willow Rd.

1719 – warrant arrest, Stonecrest

1937 – suspicious person, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.

1952 – civil dispute, Rustic Lane

2258 – warrant arrest, 50000 bl. Willow Rd.

Tuesday, Sept. 11:

0347 – property damage accident, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1046 – larceny, Redwood

1127 – unauthorized driving away of auto, 27000 bl. Sherwood Rd.

1403 – fire dept. assist, 43000 bl. Willow Rd.

1437 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Rustic Lane

1645 – assault, 51000 bl. Arkona Rd.

1717 – civil dispute, Rustic Lane

1821 – civil dispute, 44000 bl. Harris Rd.

2044 – malicious destruction of property, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.

Wednesday, Sept. 12:

0850 – suspicious vehicle, Nevada

1110 – animal complaint, 48000 bl. Harris Rd.

1124 – suspicious person, Montana

1148 – animal complaint, 48000 bl. Harris Rd.

1305 – fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Elwell Rd.

1317 – disorderly person, 28000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1510 – fraud, 45000 bl. Judd Rd.

1539 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Carleton West

1554 – family trouble, Dakota Ct.

1626 – fire dept. assist, 49000 bl. Willis Rd.

1658 – civil dispute, Montana

1706 – well-being check, 21000 bl. Clark Ln.

1828 – neighbor dispute, 50000 bl. Judd Rd.

1934 – alarm, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.

Thursday, Sept. 13:

0340 – parking complaint, 20000 bl. Martinsville

0650 – alarm, 48000 bl. Harris Rd.

0812 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Carleton West

1336 – larceny, 12000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.

1402 – suspicious vehicle, Willow Rd.

1418 – suspicious incident, 25000 bl. Clark Rd.

1457 – fire dept. assist, Arizona

1607 – suspicious vehicle, Bohn/Reed

1739 – suspicious incident, 10000 bl. Rawsonville

1830 – assist other agency, 46000 bl. Wear Rd.

2055 – assist other agency, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.

Friday, Sept. 14:

0006 – threats, Redwood

0030 – well-being check, 50000 bl. Arkona Rd.

0036 – traffic hazard, Rawsonville/Arkona

Belleville DDA tears down streetscape wall at Minimart at 5 Points

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

The Belleville Downtown Development Authority voted unanimously at its Aug. 15 meeting to spend \$4,300 to have Blue Ribbon Contracting of Van Buren Township demolish the damaged streetscape wall at 25 Main Street and put it back the way it was before the streetscape was installed.

The wall, installed as part of the Main Street program, is at the Minimart parking lot at Five Points and was damaged by pickup trucks backing into it in the parking lot.

At a previous meeting, the DDA agreed to give a proposal to Mo at Minimart, asking for more easement to install traffic blocks so a newly repaired wall wouldn't be damaged again. Mo refused giving more property and so the demolition was set.

Mo said he took a survey among his customers and they told him they preferred it back the way it was.

The project demolished 43 feet of damaged streetscape seating wall along Main Street at Minimart. Demolition was to grade level, keeping the existing concrete foundation.

The remaining seating wall was to be finished with an end column, with the addition of concrete block, cultured stone, and the limestone cap.

The project also included installation of an extruded concrete curb over the existing concrete foundation. The curb will be 43 feet long, 18" wide and 9" high, with a 1' dubdown to the existing driveway approach.

There were two price quotes for the work. The other was from Davenport Brothers for \$6,500.

In other business at the Aug. 15 meeting, the DDA:

- Heard Christopher Mattson of Spicer Group give an update on the LED street light project. He said they had changed the fixtures to LED all down Main Street to

Doane's Landing, Horizon Park, and was heading back up Main to South Street. They started changing the double arms to singles on South Street, but they were waiting for a bucket truck for the older light poles with the heavier arms. The light fixtures have a 5-year parts and labor warranty and there are five spares to start with;

- Approved giving \$400 to help with the Fire Department Centennial's \$5,000 budget;

- Discussed how beautiful the hanging flower baskets and planters are this summer in spite of the hot weather. The flowers are watered twice a day and Gary Koeppe has been added to help water. He often gets up at 4 in the morning to water, since he has trouble sleeping, said City Manager Diana Kollmeyer;

- Heard Fielder say the City of Belleville will be hosting the Senior Olympics next year, with Sumpter Township and possibly Van Buren Township. They will be able to host 300-400 people at the new Belleville High School and give Belleville a chance to show off its community;

- Heard Steve Jones report on the car show people saying they like to walk to the restaurants in Belleville during the car shows on Monday afternoons. DDA member Gary Snarski, who was chairing the meeting in the absence of chairman John Hoops, added that people always talked about making Belleville a destination and,

"It's becoming a destination"; and

- Heard Thompson say that the DDA is programming 75 days a year "in this little city." Snarski added, "Some can't see the forest through the trees. They like it quaint and quiet. But, it's like a marriage ... people are working together for the common cause and there are bigger and better events."

City of Belleville Fire Dept. plans 100th Anniversary

The City of Belleville Fire Department is planning its 100th Anniversary celebration for Saturday, Oct. 13, the same day as the city's Harvest Fest.

Retired fire fighter Bill Emerson said he has been able to get the 1923 Brockway LaFrance fire engine, Belleville's first, to display during the festivities.

The events include: pancake breakfast at St. Anthony's, 8 a.m. to noon; 100th Anniversary Muster Parade on Main Street at 10:30 a.m.; activities for children at museum and 4th St. Square, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; fire exhibits at the museum, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; apparatus viewing on Main Street and Victory Park, parade until dusk; 4th St. entertainment, 4 p.m. to dusk; and Chinese Lantern sendoff on Denton Road Bridge at dusk. 100 lanterns with live flames expected to be launched.



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Photo courtesy Tanya Johnson

VBT driver hits railroad crossing arms, gets drunk driving charge

On Sunday, Aug. 26, at about 1 p.m., Belleville Police were dispatched to a disabled Cadillac on the railroad tracks on Savage Road next to the city's DPW yard.

They found a 26-year-old Van Buren Township man with alcohol on his breath, who insisted that his tie rod broke. His vehicle had smashed into a crossing arm, which was also on the tracks.

Belleville Interim Police Chief Hal Berriman said a railroad employee happened by and was able to stop a train that was coming that way until the debris could be cleared from the track.

Chief Berriman said Van Buren Township Police officers assisted and the subject blew a preliminary breath test of .24. After VBT took him to their station, they gave him three more tests, and he blew: .32, .28, and .31, "well over the limit," Berriman said.

Police also found two bags of suspected marijuana in the man's vehicle, Berriman said.

A warrant was pending for operating under the influence of alcohol, second offense, since the man had a previous conviction for drunken driving.

Van Buren Township fire fighters assisted by towing the vehicle off the tracks before a train came through. Savage Road was temporarily blocked near the Victoria Commons neighborhood while a fire truck and tow truck were on the scene.

Tracy Kohler of Atlantic Welding needs prayers at U. of M. Hospital

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

A sign on the door of Atlantic Welding Supply at 51225 Willis Road in Sumpter Township asks visitors to: "Pray for Tracy".

Tracy Kohler Dziedzic, owner of the business, was the driver of the car that crashed on I-94 on Sept. 9. The story of the crash and pictures were on the front page of last week's *Independent*.

Tracy is still in intensive care at the University of Michigan Hospital, according to reports. It also is reported that both dogs in the accident have died.

Kohler recently married Chris Dziedzic.

Birthdays

Sept. 16 – Ron Stiver
Sept. 17 – Raymond Newsome
Sept. 21 – Nancy Newsome
Sept. 22 – Larry Hubbard
Sept. 23 – Chris Johnson, Roy Dunford, Robin Lauwers
Sept. 26 – Jaxon Darke
Sept. 27 – Ryleigh Rochan
Sept. 28 – Andrea Marde Moore, Kevin Gage Moore

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9/27

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Sept. 20 - 23, 9:30am - 6pm
Each day, rain or shine!

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Between Michigan Ave. & Ecorse Rd.
off Denton Rd.

Designer Clothing, Baby Everything,
Tools, Misc. Furniture.
Anything & Everything Must Go!
UNBELIEVABLE PRICES!!!

BIG YARD SALE - 46507 BEMIS RD.
between Sumpter & Elwell Rds. Sept. 13-
15 & Sept. 20-22, 9-5 p.m. Everything
Goes. Household, Tools, Toys, Crafts,
Yard & Snow equipment.

9/20

43366 HAVERHILL RD. Sept. 20-22, 9-
3 p.m. TV stand, Home gym, Kids toys,
Full nursery set, Car seats, Baby gear,
Bikes, Clothes plus household misc.

9/20

MOVING SALE - 3 Capistrano (Belleville
Senior Section) Sept. 22-23, 10-5 p.m.
Tools, Misc. household items. Little bit
of everything.

9/20

HUGE 9 FAMILY SALE. 18856 Savage
corner of Clark Rd. Sept. 27-28, 9-6 p.m.
Toys, Games, Clothing, Household goods
& Boat.

9/27

ESTATE SALE - 319 W. Columbia. Sept.
21-23, 9-6 p.m. Antiques, House-hold,
Jewelry & Clothes.

9/20

7005 SHELDON RD. Sept. 17-24, 8-5
p.m. Rain or Shine. Crafts (Macrame,
yard, sewing books), Clothes (M), Spa
Tub, Pool table, Xmas. 2001 Chevy Van
w/handicap equipment, \$12,000.

9/20

BIG YARD SALE. 42857 SAVAGE RD.
Sept. 20-22, 9-5 p.m. Women's clothes
(plus & regular), Household, Craft books,
Cake decorating, Quilting material &
Much More.

9/20

45040 HARRIS RD., Belleville.
Sept. 20-23, 9-6 p.m.

9/20

RUMMAGE & BAKE SALE. Morning
Star Church. 44441 Clay Rd. Oct. 3-5,
9-5 p.m.

10/04

MULTI FAMILY SALE. 645 Sumpter
Rd. next to Look insurance, S. of
Owen. Sept. 22-23, 9-4 p.m. Tools,
Furniture, ect.

9/20

280 HOLLY LN. (BELLE-MANOR).
Sept. 22-23, 9-7 p.m. Household, 2
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10/04

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WANTED - BELLEVILLE HIGH School
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10/04

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9/27

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BLACK BEAGLE MIX (looks like
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Vicinity of Waltz Rd & Bryan Rd. in New
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9/27

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9/27

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9/20

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(734) 482-4847

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9/20

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9/20

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Things to do in the Belleville area...

• **Thursday, Sept. 20** – Young Life will have another prayer walk around Belleville High School, beginning at 7 p.m. Everyone welcome. Meet at the tennis courts.

• **Thursday, Sept. 20** – The Other Book Club meets at 7 p.m. at different restaurants throughout the Belleville area. Call the library for today's location, 699-3291. Today's book is "Lies My Teacher Told Me" by James Loewen.

• **Friday, Sept. 21** – Free outside movie night featuring "Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory" at dusk at the Willow United Methodist Church front lawn, 36925 Willow Rd., New Boston, at Denning Rd. Free hot dogs, popcorn, beverages. Bring a lawn chair, blanket, family.

• **Sunday, Sept. 23** – RC Express music at September Days Senior Center at the Van Buren Township Hall, 2-5 p.m. Free.

• **Monday, Sept. 24** – Cruisin' on the Bayou car show on Main Street in Belleville, 6-9 p.m.

• **Tuesday, Sept. 25** – Tuesday's Cruzin' the Belleville Moose, 6-9 p.m., music, food, drinks, 831 E. Huron River Dr.

• **Wednesday, Sept. 26** – Belleville Area District Library Board is hosting Anders

Dahlgren, who will give a presentation at 7 p.m. at the BHS mini-auditorium on what space he recommends for a new library building. The public is urged to attend.

• **Thursday, Sept. 27** – The Belleville Area District Library Board special meeting at the library, 167 Fourth Street, at 10 a.m. to confer with space needs expert Anders Dahlgren. Public invited.

• **Thursday, Sept. 27** – The African American Book Group meets at the library at 7 p.m. This month's book is "Good House" by Tananarive Due.

• **Wednesday, Oct. 3** – Local Candidates' Forum 6:30 p.m. at Owen Intermediate

School (formerly called South Middle School) cafeteria, put on by the Belleville Women's Club.

• **Thursday, Oct. 4** – The Evening Book Group meets at the library at 7 p.m. This month's book is "The Last Child" by John Hart.

• **Friday, Oct. 5** – Oktoberfest celebration at Van Buren Eagles, 9961 Beck Road, beginning at 4 p.m., followed by Oktoberfest dinner and dancing. Music by Martin Brothers Plus, German band, \$15 per person in advance, \$20 at the door, if available. Information: 461-2498

• **Friday through Sunday, Oct. 5-7**

– Civil War Encampment Weekend at Van Buren Park, \$5 per person or \$10 weekend pass. Re-enactors will be on hand to portray life on the battlefield. See drills, battlefield re-creations, cooking demonstrations, and war stories told around the campfires.

Sumpter Township Public Notice

Sumpter Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes August 28, 2012

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm with the:

1. Pledge

2. **Roll Call:** Present: Clerk Hoffman, Treasurer J. Morgan, Trustees: Bates, Hamm, & P. Morgan. Excused absence Supervisor Vawters & Trustee Kennedy. Also present Attorney Young, Deputy Clerk Hurst and approximately 28 residents.

3. **Agenda:** Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Hoffman to appoint Treasurer J. Morgan to chair meeting and add item F. to the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Public Comments on Agenda Items Only

5. Minutes:

A. Motion by Hamm, supported by Bates to approve minutes of the regular board meeting August 14, 2012. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Hamm to approve minutes of the public hearing August 8, 2012. Motion carried unanimously.

6. **Warrants:** Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Bates to approve warrants totaling \$228,403.32. Roll call: Yes: Hoffman, J. Morgan, Bates, Hamm & P. Morgan. Nay: None. Absent: Vawters, & Kennedy. Motion carried unanimously.

7. **Parks & Recreation:** Motion by Hoffman, supported by Hamm to approve the parks & recreation report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Attorney: No report

9. Supervisor: No report

10. Board Response

11. New Business:

A. Presentation by Keith Johnston President of Chamber of Commerce

B. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Bates to approve the lease agreement with Clinton & Amelia Brown for Demo Derby staging \$1.00 per year. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Hoffman to approve Parks & Recreation to have the Marti Gras at the PNA Hall February 9, 2013. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Motion by Hamm, supported by P. Morgan to approve to pay Hennessey Engineers for flood plain consulting services total \$9,952.50. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Hoffman to accept with regrets the resignation of Dawn Maynard, Water Department Clerk effective September 4, 2012. Motion carried unanimously.

F. Motion by Hoffman, supported by P. Morgan to approve appointing Sybil Buchanan as Water/Sewer department clerk effective immediately. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Announcements

13. Open Floor

14. **Adjournment:** Motion by Hoffman, supported by P. Morgan to adjourn at 7:03 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I, Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk of Sumpter Township, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of minutes taken at a Regular Board Meeting of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees on August 28, 2012 at 6:30 pm at the Sumpter Township Hall, 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111, County of Wayne, and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meeting Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be available as required by said act.

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk

Publish: September 20, 2012

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

On Wednesday, September, 26, 2012, the Van Buren Township Police Department will conduct a public auction of impounded and abandoned vehicles. The auction will begin at 10:30am, at **J&T Towing and Storage**, 287 Industrial Dr. Belleville MI, County of Wayne, where the following will be offered for sale to the highest bidder.

1997	DODGE	2D	4B3AU42Y7VE175973	12-23149
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All vehicles are sold in "as is condition." Bidding on all impounded vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

Leon Wright, Van Buren Township Clerk

Publish: September 20, 2012

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

NOTICE OF CLOSE OF REGISTRATION FOR GENERAL ELECTION TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2012

To the Qualified Electors of CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN– WAYNE COUNTY

Notice is hereby given that Tuesday, October 9, 2012 is the last day to register to vote or change your address for the above stated election.

If you are not currently registered to vote or have changed your address in the above stated jurisdiction in which you live, you may do so at the following locations and times listed in this notice.

Qualified electors may also register to vote or change their address in the following manners:

In Person:

At the township clerk's office or at the office of any county clerk during normal business hours.

At any of the Secretary of State Branch offices located throughout the state during normal business hours.

At the specified agency for clients receiving services through the Family Independence Agency, the Department of Community Health, Michigan Jobs Commission and some offices of the Commission for the Blind.

At the military recruitment offices for persons enlisting in the armed forces.

By Mail:

By obtaining and completing a Mail Voter Registration Application and forwarding to the election official as directed on the application by the close of registration deadline. Mail voter registration applications may be obtained by contacting:

VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP CLERK
46425 TYLER RD.
VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP, MI 48111

Telephone number: 734.699.8909

Qualifications for Registration

1. *Applicant is at least 18 years of age.*
2. Resident of Van Buren Township for at least 30 days.
3. Citizen of the United States.

Note:

A Person who registers to vote by mail is required to vote in person unless they have previously voted in person in the city/township where they live or are at least 60 years of age or are handicapped.

Applications for Absentee Voter Ballots are available at the Clerk's Office. The deadline for filing an application to receive an Absentee Ballot for the November 6, 2012 General Election is Saturday, November 3, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Clerk's office.

Leon Wright, Township Clerk

Publish: 9/20/12

Upcoming Meetings

- Monday, Sept. 24 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m.,

Administration Building

- Tuesday, Sept. 25 – Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority, 5:30 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m., followed by regular meeting

at 6:30 p.m. Also, VBT Water & Sewer Commission, 7 p.m.

- Wednesday, Sept. 26 – Belleville Area District Library, 7 p.m., BHS mini-auditorium, presentation by Anders Dahlgren on space needs for a new library building. Also, Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

• Thursday, Sept. 27 – Van Buren Township Cultural Advisory Committee, 11 a.m.

- Monday, Oct. 1 – Van Buren Township Board of Trustees work/study, 4 p.m. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.

• Tuesday, Oct. 2 – Van Buren Township Board of Trustees, 7:30 p.m.

- Wednesday, Oct. 3 – Van Buren Township Planning Staff Review, 1-4 p.m. Also, VBT Public Safety Committee, 5:30 p.m.

• Monday, Oct. 8 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., Mini-Auditorium at new Belleville High School

- Tuesday, Oct. 9 – Van Buren Township September Days Senior Endowment

committee, 11 a.m. Also, VBT LDFA, 2 p.m. Also, VBT Recreation Committee, 5:30 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m., followed by regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Also, VBT Board of Zoning Appeals, 7 p.m.

- Wednesday, Oct. 10 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

• Thursday, Oct. 11 – Sumpter Township Planning Commission, 7 p.m.

• Monday, Oct. 15 – Van Buren Township Board of Trustees work/study, 4 p.m. Also, Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education work/study, 7 p.m., Administration Building. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.

- Tuesday, Oct. 16 – Van Buren Township Board of Trustees, 7:30 p.m.

• Wednesday, Oct. 17 – South Huron Valley Utility Authority, 10 a.m., Brownstown Township Hall. Also, Van Buren Township Planning Staff Review, 1-4 p.m. Also, VBT Environmental Commission, 7 p.m.

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Kristi Mannarelli, DVM
Veterinarians

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www.sumpterpetcare.com

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Wednesday-Friday-Saturday 8am - 1pm

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